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(54) Title: MEDICAMENTS (57) Abstract This invention relates to aerosol formulations of use for the administration of medicaments by inhalation, in particular a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises particulate medicament and a fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, which formulation is substantially free of surfactant and with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof. A method of treating respiratory disorders which comprises administration by inhalation of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation as defined is also described.		

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MEDICAMENTS

This invention relates to aerosol formulations of use for the administration of
5 medicaments by inhalation.

The use of aerosols to administer medicaments has been known for several decades. Such aerosols generally comprise the medicament, one or more chlorofluorocarbon propellants and either a surfactant or a solvent, such as ethanol. The most commonly
10 used aerosol propellants for medicaments have been propellant 11 (CCl_3F) and/or propellant 114 ($\text{CF}_2\text{ClCF}_2\text{Cl}$) with propellant 12 (CCl_2F_2). However these propellants are now believed to provoke the degradation of stratospheric ozone and there is thus a need to provide aerosol formulations for medicaments which employ so called "ozone-friendly" propellants.

A class of propellants which are believed to have minimal ozone-depleting effects in
15 comparison to conventional chlorofluorocarbons comprise fluorocarbons and hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbons, and a number of medicinal aerosol formulations using such propellant systems are disclosed in, for example, EP 0372777, WO91/04011, WO91/11173, WO91/11495 and WO91/14422. These applications are all concerned with the preparation of pressurised aerosols for the administration of
20 medicaments and seek to overcome the problems associated with the use of the new class of propellants, in particular the problems of stability associated with the pharmaceutical formulations prepared. The applications all propose the addition of one or more of adjuvants such as alcohols, alkanes, dimethyl ether, surfactants (including fluorinated and non-fluorinated surfactants, carboxylic acids, polyethoxylates etc) and even conventional
25 chlorofluorocarbon propellants in small amounts intended to minimise potential ozone damage.

Thus, for example EP 0372777 requires the use of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane in combination with both a cosolvent having greater polarity than 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (e.g. an alcohol or a lower alkane) and a surfactant in order to achieve a stable
30 formulation of a medicament powder. In particular it is noted in the specification at page

which is substantially completely insoluble in the selected propellant. Appropriate medicaments may thus be selected from, for example, analgesics, e.g. codeine, dihydromorphine, ergotamine, fentanyl or morphine; anginal preparations, e.g. diltiazem; antiallergics, e.g. cromoglycate, ketotifen or nedocromil; anti-infectives, e.g. cephalosporins, penicillins, streptomycin, sulphonamides, tetracyclines and pentamidine; antihistamines, e.g. methapyrilene; anti-inflammatories, e.g. flunisolide, budesonide, tipredane or triamcinolone acetonide; antitussives, e.g. noscapine; bronchodilators, e.g. ephedrine, adrenaline, fenoterol, formoterol, isoprenaline, metaproterenol, phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine, pirbuterol, reproterol, rimiterol, terbutaline, isoetharine, tulobuterol, orciprenaline, or (-)-4-amino-3,5-dichloro- α -[[[6-[2-(2-pyridinyl) ethoxy] hexyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol; diuretics, e.g. amiloride; anticholinergics e.g. ipratropium, atropine or oxitropium; hormones, e.g. cortisone, hydrocortisone or prednisolone; xanthines e.g. aminophylline, choline theophyllinate, lysine theophyllinate or theophylline; and therapeutic proteins and peptides, e.g. insulin or glucagon. It will be clear to a person skilled in the art that, where appropriate, the medicaments may be used in the form of salts (e.g. as alkali metal or amine salts or as acid addition salts) or as esters (e.g. lower alkyl esters) or as solvates (e.g. hydrates) to optimise the activity and/or stability of the medicament and/or to minimise the solubility of the medicament in the propellant.

Particularly preferred medicaments for administration using aerosol formulations in accordance with the invention include anti-allergics, bronchodilators and anti-inflammatory steroids of use in the treatment of respiratory disorders such as asthma by inhalation therapy, for example cromoglycate (e.g. the sodium salt), terbutaline (e.g. the sulphate salt), reproterol (e.g. the hydrochloride salt) or (-)-4-amino-3,5-dichloro- α -[[[6-[2-(2-pyridinyl)-ethoxy]hexyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol.

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the aerosol formulations according to the invention may, if desired, contain a combination of two or more active ingredients. Aerosol compositions containing two active ingredients (in a conventional propellant system) are known, for example, for the treatment of respiratory disorders such

as asthma. Accordingly the present invention further provides aerosol formulations in accordance with the invention which contain two or more particulate medicaments. Medicaments may be selected from suitable combinations of the medicaments mentioned hereinbefore. Thus, suitable combinations of bronchodilatory agents include ephedrine
5 and theophylline, fenoterol and ipratropium, and isoetharine and phenylephrine aerosol formulations.

Preferred aerosol formulations in accordance with the invention comprise (a) an effective amount of a particulate bronchodilatory medicament (b) an effective amount of a particulate antiinflammatory, preferably a steroidal antiinflammatory medicament and (c) a
10 fluorocarbon or hydrogen - containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant with the proviso that said medicaments are other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof. Alternatively aerosol formulations may contain a bronchodilator such as isoprenaline in combination with an antiallergic such as cromoglycate (e.g. the sodium salt).
15 Combinations of isoprenaline and sodium cromoglycate are especially preferred.

The final aerosol formulation desirably contains 0.005-10% w/w, preferably 0.005-5% w/w, especially 0.01-1.0% w/w, of medicament relative to the total weight of the formulation.

The propellants for use in the invention may be any fluorocarbon or
20 hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon or mixtures thereof having a sufficient vapour pressure to render them effective as propellants. Preferably the propellant will be a non-solvent for the medicament. Suitable propellants include, for example, C₁₋₄-hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbons such as CH₂ClF, CClF₂CHClF, CF₃CHClF, CHF₂CClF₂, CHClFCHF₂, CF₃CH₂Cl and CClF₂CH₃; C₁₋₄-hydrogen-containing
25 fluorocarbons such as CHF₂CHF₂, CF₃CH₂F, CHF₂CH₃ and CF₃CHFCH₃; and perfluorocarbons such as CF₃CF₃ and CF₃CF₂CF₃.

Where mixtures of the fluorocarbons or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbons are employed they may be mixtures of the above identified compounds or mixtures, preferably binary mixtures, with other fluorocarbons or hydrogen-containing
30 chlorofluorocarbons for example CHClF₂, CH₂F₂ and CF₃CH₃. Preferably a single

fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon is employed as the propellant. Particularly preferred as propellants are C₁₋₄ hydrogen-containing fluorocarbons such as 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (CF₃CH₂F) and 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoro-n-propane (CF₃CHFCF₃).

5 It is desirable that the formulations of the invention contain no components which may provoke the degradation of stratospheric ozone. In particular it is desirable that the formulations are substantially free of chlorofluorocarbons such as CCl₃F, CCl₂F₂ and CF₃CCl₃.

10 The propellant may additionally contain a volatile adjuvant such as a saturated hydrocarbon for example propane, n-butane, isobutane, pentane and isopentane or a dialkyl ether for example dimethyl ether. In general, up to 50% w/w of the propellant may comprise a volatile hydrocarbon, for example 1 to 30% w/w. However, formulations which are substantially free of volatile adjuvants are preferred.

15 It is further desirable that the formulations of the invention are substantially free of liquid components of higher polarity than the propellant employed. Polarity may be determined for example, by the method described in European Patent Application Publication No. 0327777. In particular formulations which are substantially free of alcohols such as ethanol are preferable. As used herein "substantially free" means less than 1% w/w based upon the fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon, in particular less than 0.5% for example 0.1% or less.

20 A particularly preferred embodiment the invention provides a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation consisting essentially of one more particulate medicament and one or more fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

25 The formulations of the invention may be prepared by dispersal of the medicament in the selected propellant in an appropriate container, e.g. with the aid of sonication. The process is desirably carried out under anhydrous conditions to obviate any adverse effects of moisture on suspension stability.

Optionally, the medicament may be surface-modified prior to its dispersion in the propellant by treatment with a substantially non-polar liquid medium which is a non-solvent for the medicament. There is thus provided in a further aspect of the invention an aerosol formulation comprising particulate, surface-modified medicament, as defined herein, and a fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, which formulation is substantially free of surfactant. By "surface-modified medicament" is meant particles of medicament which have been surface-modified by admixture with a substantially non-polar non-solvent liquid, followed by removal of the liquid, with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof. The substantially non-polar non-solvent liquid medium is conveniently an aliphatic hydrocarbon, e.g. a lower alkane, which is sufficiently volatile to permit its ready evaporation, e.g. at ambient temperature and pressure, after slurring with the medicament. The use of isopentane as liquid medium is particularly advantageous in this respect.

The medicament is desirably slurried with the liquid medium under anhydrous conditions to obviate any adverse effects of moisture on suspension stability. The slurry may advantageously be sonicated to maximise the surface-modifying effect of the treatment. The liquid may be removed by any convenient means for example by evaporation or by filtration followed by evaporation, provided that following treatment the medicament is substantially free of the liquid. The formulations of the invention will be substantially free of the non-solvent non-polar liquid. Surface-modified medicament prepared by the above described process comprises a further aspect of the present invention.

The formulations according to the invention may be filled into canisters suitable for delivering pharmaceutical aerosol formulations. Canisters generally comprise a container capable of withstanding the vapour pressure of the propellant used such as a plastic or plastic-coated glass bottle or preferably a metal can, for example an aluminium can which may optionally be anodised, lacquer-coated and/or plastic-coated, which container is closed with a metering valve. The metering valves are designed to deliver a metered

amount of the formulation per actuation and incorporate a gasket to prevent leakage of propellant through the valve. The gasket may comprise any suitable elastomeric material such as for example low density polyethylene, chlorobutyl, black and white butadiene-acrylonitrile rubbers, butyl rubber and neoprene. Suitable valves are commercially available from manufacturers well known in the aerosol industry, for example, from Valois, France (e.g. DF10, DF30, DF60), Bepak plc, UK (e.g. BK300, BK356) and 3M-Neotechnic Ltd, UK (e.g. Spraymiser™).

Conventional bulk manufacturing methods and machinery well known to those skilled in the art of pharmaceutical aerosol manufacture may be employed for the preparation of large scale batches for the commercial production of filled canisters. Thus, for example, in one bulk manufacturing method a metering valve is crimped onto an aluminium can to form an empty canister. The particulate medicament is added to a charge vessel and liquified propellant is pressure filled through the charge vessel into a manufacturing vessel. The drug suspension is mixed before recirculation to a filling machine and an aliquot of the drug suspension is then filled through the metering valve into the canister. Typically, in batches prepared for pharmaceutical use, each filled canister is check-weighed, coded with a batch number and packed into a tray for storage before release testing.

Each filled canister is conveniently fitted into a suitable channelling device prior to use to form a metered dose inhaler for administration of the medicament into the lungs or nasal cavity of a patient. Suitable channelling devices comprise for example a valve actuator and a cylindrical or cone-like passage through which medicament may be delivered from the filled canister via the metering valve to the nose or mouth of a patient e.g. a mouthpiece actuator. Metered dose inhalers are designed to deliver a fixed unit dosage of medicament per actuation or "puff", for example in the range of 10 to 5000 microgram medicament per puff.

Administration of medicament may be indicated for the treatment of mild, moderate or severe acute or chronic symptoms or for prophylactic treatment. It will be appreciated that the precise dose administered will depend on the age and condition of the patient, the particular particulate medicament used and the frequency of administration and will

ultimately be at the discretion of the attendant physician. When combinations of medicaments are employed the dose of each component of the combination will in general be that employed for each component when used alone. Typically, administration may be one or more times, for example from 1 to 8 times per day, giving for example 1,2,3 or 4 puffs each time.

Thus, for example, each valve actuation may deliver 5mg sodium cromoglycate, 250 microgram terbutaline sulphate or 500 microgram reproterol hydrochloride. Typically each filled canister for use in a metered dose inhaler contains 100, 160 or 240 metered doses or puffs of medicament.

The filled canisters and metered dose inhalers described herein comprise further aspects of the present invention.

A still further aspect of the present invention comprises a method of treating respiratory disorders such as, for example, asthma, which comprises administration by inhalation of an effective amount of a formulation as herein described.

The following non-limitative Examples serve to illustrate the invention.

Example 1

Micronised sodium cromoglycate (1.2g) is weighed directly into an aluminium can and 1,1,1,2-tetrafluorethane (to 18.2g) added from a vacuum flask. A metering valve is crimped into place and the sealed can sonicated for five minutes. The aerosol delivers 5mg sodium cromoglycate per actuation.

Example 2

Micronised terbutaline sulphate (60mg) is weighed directly into an aluminium can and 1,1,1,2-tetrafluorethane (to 18.2g) added from a vacuum flask. A metering valve is crimped into place and the sealed can sonicated for five minutes. The aerosol delivers 250 microgram terbutaline sulphate per actuation.

Claims

1. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises particulate medicament and a fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, which formulation is substantially free of surfactant and with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate, or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
2. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation consisting essentially of one more particulate medicament and one or more fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
3. A formulation as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein said medicament is an anti-allergic, a bronchodilator or an anti-inflammatory steroid.
4. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein said medicament is cromoglycate, terbutaline, reproterol or (-)-4-amino-3,5-dichloro- α -[[[6-[2-(2-pyridinyl)ethoxy]hexyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.
5. A formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 which contains two or more particulate medicaments.
6. A formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 which comprises a particulate bronchodilatory medicament and a particulate anti-inflammatory medicament.

7. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 5 which comprises a particulate bronchodilatory medicament and a particulate anti-allergic medicament.
8. A formulation as claimed in Claim 7 which comprises isoprenaline and cromoglycate or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.
9. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 8 which contains 0.005 to 10% w/w of medicament relative to the total weight of the formulation.
10. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 9 wherein the propellant is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane or 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoro-n-propane.
11. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 10 which has a respirable fraction of 20% or more by weight of the medicament.
12. A formulation as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 11 wherein said particulate medicament is surface-modified.
13. Surface-modified medicament prepared by admixture of particles of a medicament other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, with a substantially non-polar, non-solvent liquid, followed by removal of the liquid.
14. A canister suitable for delivering a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises a container capable of withstanding the vapour pressure of the propellant used, which container is closed with a metering valve and contains a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises particulate medicament and a fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, which formulation is substantially free of surfactant and with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol,

salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

15 15. A metered dose inhaler which comprises a canister as claimed in Claim 14 fitted into a suitable channelling device.

16. A method of treating respiratory disorders which comprises administration by inhalation of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises particulate medicament and a fluorocarbon or hydrogen-containing chlorofluorocarbon propellant, which formulation is substantially free of surfactant and with the proviso that said medicament is other than salmeterol, salbutamol, fluticasone propionate, beclomethasone dipropionate or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP 92/02809

International Application No

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁶		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
Int.Cl. 5 A61K9/00		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
Int.Cl. 5	A61K	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT⁹		
Category ¹⁰	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³
A	WO,A,9 104 011 (RIKER) 4 April 1991 cited in the application see claims see page 6, line 27 - line 32 see page 8, line 1 - line 22 ---	1-16
A	WO,A,9 111 495 (BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM) 8 August 1991 cited in the application see claims see page 2, line 10 - line 31 ---	1-16
A	WO,A,9 111 173 (FISONS) 8 August 1991 cited in the application see claims see page 3, line 15 - line 16 ---	1-16
	-/--	
<p>¹⁰ Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report	
09 MARCH 1993	23. 03. 93	
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer	
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE	SCARPONI U.	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 92/ 02809

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
ALTHOUGH CLAIM 16 IS DIRECTED TO A METHOD OF TREATMENT OF THE HUMAN BODY BY THERAPY (RULE 39.1(IV) PCT) THE SEARCH HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT AND BASED ON THE ALLEGED EFFECTS OF THE COMPOSITION.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 9202809
SA 67186

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO-A-9104011	04-04-91	AU-A- 6409790 EP-A- 0493437	18-04-91 08-07-92
WO-A-9111495	08-08-91	DE-A- 4003272 AU-A- 7211391 EP-A- 0514415	08-08-91 21-08-91 25-11-92
WO-A-9111173	08-08-91	EP-A- 0513127	19-11-92
WO-A-9114422	03-10-91	AU-A- 7668691 EP-A- 0526481 US-A- 5118494	21-10-91 10-02-93 02-06-92
WO-A-9208447	29-05-92	AU-A- 8862991	11-06-92